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August 31, 2007

Dr. Les Harder, Deputy Director
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Mr. Ralph Svetich, DRMS Project Manager
Delta-Suisun Marsh Office
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Dr. Michael Healey, Lead Scientist
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Harder, Svetich and Healey:

The CALFED Independent Science Board (ISB) has responsibility for oversight of the science used to inform decision making in the Bay-Delta system. As part of this responsibility, the ISB is overseeing the review of the Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS) being coordinated by the CALFED Science Program. The DRMS *Draft Phase 1 Report: Risk Analysis* was completed in late June and forwarded to the Independent Review Panel (IRP). The IRP completed an extensive and detailed review of the Draft Phase 1 Report on August 23rd. The ISB evaluated the review at its August 28th meeting. This evaluation included discussions with Dr. Johnnie Moore, Chair of the IRP.

As you are aware, the IRP had numerous, substantive concerns with the report. These concerns are summarized as "Tier 1", general issues that impact the overall utility of the report, and "Tier 2", specific issues regarding methods, data analyses and presentation within the text of the report. The ISB is seeking to fully evaluate the IRP review and its implications for the utility of the DRMS Phase 1 report in on-going Delta planning efforts.

In order to complete this evaluation, the ISB seeks a response from DWR and the DRMS Phase 1 report authors to the comments in the IRP review. Given the short timelines for decision making, the board is only seeking a response to the Tier 1 comments at this time. It would be most helpful to the ISB if a written response would describe any plans for revision of the report, including

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the timeframe for those revisions, by September 17, 2007. If the authors disagree with elements of the review, they should provide specific reasons why.

The ISB plans to discuss the Draft DRMS Phase 1 report review and the initial author's responses in a teleconference during the last week of September. We invite any of the authors to participate in this discussion and to be available to answer board member questions. The teleconference will be organized by CALFED Science Program staff.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. Mount', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeffrey Mount
Chair, ISB

cc: Johnnie Moore, Chair DRMS Independent Review Panel